

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his telephone conference with the undersigned attorney. Applicant has amended the title and abstract as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner's rejection of Claim 9 under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,612,753 to Poradish ("Poradish") is respectfully traversed. The Examiner has indicated that Claims 6-7 and 12, if rewritten in independent form, are patentable over the prior art of record and therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Claim 9 of the application is allowable since Claim 9 now incorporates the limitations of Claims 5-6.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early allowance of the claims is hereby respectfully requested. The Examiner is also invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below if the Examiner feels that this will help the prosecution of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized charge any fee for this Amendment, or credit any overage to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

Dated: December 9, 1997

Respectfully submitted,

GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH



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